

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the:
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

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PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

		Date of mailing (day/month/year)	06 JAN 2005
Applicant's or agent's file reference 113790:JHK:bjg		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below	
International application No. PCT/AU2004/001678	International filing date (day/month/year) 29 November 2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 28 November 2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC Cl. 7 B60C 007/24, 007/28			
Applicant CROCODILE CORPORATION LTD et al.			

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer L. DESECAR Telephone No. (02) 6283 2381
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001678

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 in written format
 in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001678

Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 12, 15-18	YES
	Claims 1-11, 13-14	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 15-18	YES
	Claims 1-14	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-18	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

NOVELTY (N) Claims 1-11, 13-14:

(a) US 5139066 A 1-11, 13-14
(b) WO 2000/076789 A1 1-11, 13-14

Each of the above documents also cited in the international search report discloses all of the features of all the claims identified alongside.

Claim 1:

For example document (a) see column 3 line 11 to column 5 line 34, Figures 1-8, wherein it clearly discloses a detachable solid band tyre (10) involving the features as defined and in particular a radially inner portion (17) engagable with a wheel rim, the radially inner portion comprising a band (29), the band adapted to be supportingly received on and releasably fixed with respect to the outer periphery of the wheel rim.

Claims 10, 13:

The features of these claims are similarly disclosed in the document (a) see as against claim 1.

Claims 2-9, 11, 14:

The additional features introduced by these claims are also disclosed in the document (a) for example:

- a rigid/metal band see column 3 lines 30-39, Figures 1-8 item 29
- a cushioning structure see column 4 lines 16-20 Figures 1-8, items 45, 49
- a plurality of cavities see column 3 lines 51-53 Figure 1-6, items 37, 39.

INVENTIVE STEP (IS) Claims 1-14:

Claims 1-11, 13-14: As above.

Claim 12:

The additional features introduced by this claim merely amount to a common general knowledge, hence do not involve an inventive step.